

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly revise claims 1 and 12, and add new claims 28-42 as follows. It should be noted that the revisions to claims 1 and 12 are typographical, and, therefore, are not related to the patentability of these or other claims.

The following is a complete listing of revised claims and new claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A hybrid telecommunications switch comprising:

at least one circuit switch fabric;

at least one packet switch fabric; and

a controller configured to route IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric or packet switch fabric, depending on an ATM service category of the IP traffic.

2. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 1 wherein a portion of the circuit switch fabric resources are provisioned for circuit switched traffic and the remaining portion of the circuit switch fabric resources are allocated to IP traffic as the controller routes IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

3. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 2 wherein the controller is further configured to allocate circuit switch fabric resources to traffic falling within an ATM service category.

4. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to route IP traffic associated with a constant bit rate (CBR) ATM service category to the circuit switch fabric.

5. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to route IP traffic associated with a real time variable bit rate (rt-VBR) ATM service category to the circuit switch fabric.

6. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to route IP traffic associated with an ATM traffic service category which is neither CBR nor rt-VBR traffic to the IP switch fabric.

7. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 3 wherein the controller is further configured to allocate available circuit switch resources, as indicated by a resource table, to received IP traffic requests.

8. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 7 wherein the controller is further configured to maintain circuit switch ingress and egress resource tables.

9. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 7 wherein the controller is further configured to pass an IP traffic request to a destination node and to establish an IP traffic path after having determined that all nodes along the proposed traffic path have accepted an IP traffic request.

10. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 9 wherein the controller is further configured to determine whether IP traffic associated with the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be routed through the circuit switch fabric.

11. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 10 wherein the controller is further configured to determine whether IP traffic associated with the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be routed through the circuit switch fabric based upon a peak to sustained packet rate ratio.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for routing telecommunications traffic in a hybrid telecommunications switch comprising at least one packet switch fabric, at least one circuit switch fabric, and a controller, including the step of:

routing IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric or packet switch fabric, depending on an ATM service category of the IP traffic.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:

provisioning a portion of the circuit switch fabric resources for circuit switched traffic, and

allocating the remaining portion of the circuit switch fabric resources to IP traffic as a controller routes the IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

allocating circuit switch fabric resources to IP traffic.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

routing IP traffic associated with a CBR ATM service category to the circuit switch fabric.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

routing IP traffic associated with an rt-VBR ATM service category to the circuit switch fabric.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

routing IP traffic not associated with the CBR or rt-VBR ATM service categories to the IP switch fabric.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

allocating available circuit switch fabric resources, as indicated by a resource table, to IP traffic requests.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

maintaining circuit switch ingress and egress resource tables.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

passing an IP traffic request to a destination node.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of:

determining that all nodes along the proposed IP traffic path have allocated circuit switch fabric resources for the IP traffic.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:

establishing an IP traffic path after the determination step.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:

determining whether IP traffic associated with the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be routed through an IP switch fabric or a circuit switch fabric.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of:

comparing a sustained packet ratio to a threshold value.

25. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 9 wherein the controller is further configured to pass an IP traffic request to a destination node.

26. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 9 wherein the controller is further configured to determine that all nodes along a proposed IP traffic path allocate circuit switch fabric resources for IP traffic.

27. (Previously Presented) The switch of claim 26 wherein the controller is further configured to establish an IP traffic path after determining that all nodes along a proposed IP traffic path allocate circuit switch fabric resources for IP traffic.

28. (New) A hybrid telecommunications switch comprising:

at least one circuit switch fabric;

at least one packet switch fabric;

a controller configured to:

route IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric or packet switch fabric, depending on an ATM service category of the IP traffic;

allocate circuit switch fabric resources to traffic falling within an ATM service category; and

allocate available circuit switch resources, as indicated by a resource table, to received IP traffic requests.

29. (New) The switch as in claim 28 wherein the controller is further configured to maintain circuit switch ingress and egress resource tables.

30. (New) The switch as in claim 28 wherein the controller is further configured to pass an IP traffic request to a destination node and to establish an IP traffic path after having determined that all nodes along the proposed traffic path have accepted an IP traffic request.

31. (New) The switch as in claim 30 wherein the controller is further configured to determine whether IP traffic associated with an rt-VBR ATM service category is to be routed through the circuit switch fabric.

32. (New) The switch as in claim 31 wherein the controller is further configured to determine whether IP traffic associated with the rt-VBR ATM service category is to be routed through the circuit switch fabric based upon a peak to sustained packet rate ratio.

33. (New) A method for routing telecommunications traffic in a hybrid telecommunications switch comprising at least one packet switch fabric, at least one circuit switch fabric, and a controller, including the step of:

routing IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric or packet switch fabric, depending on an ATM service category of the IP traffic;

provisioning a portion of the circuit switch fabric resources for circuit switched traffic;

allocating the remaining portion of the circuit switch fabric resources to IP traffic as a controller routes the IP traffic to the circuit switch fabric; and

allocating available circuit switch fabric resources, as indicated by a resource table, to IP traffic requests.

34. (New) The method as in claim 33 further comprising the step of maintaining circuit switch ingress and egress resource tables.

35. (New) The method as in claim 33 further comprising the step of passing an IP traffic request to a destination node.

36. (New) The method as in claim 33 further comprising the step of determining that all nodes along the proposed IP traffic path have allocated circuit switch fabric resources for the IP traffic.

37. (New) The method as in claim 36 further comprising the step of establishing an IP traffic path after the determination step.

38. (New) The method as in claim 36 further comprising the step of determining whether IP traffic associated with an rt-VBR ATM service category is to be routed through an IP switch fabric or a circuit switch fabric.

39. (New) The method as in claim 38 further comprising the step of comparing a sustained packet ratio to a threshold value.

40. (New) The switch as in claim 30 wherein the controller is further configured to pass an IP traffic request to a destination node.

41. (New) The switch as in claim 30 wherein the controller is further configured to determine that all nodes along a proposed IP traffic path allocate circuit switch fabric resources for IP traffic.

42. (New) The switch as in claim 41 wherein the controller is further configured to establish an IP traffic path after determining that all nodes along a proposed IP traffic path allocate circuit switch fabric resources for IP traffic.